

Flamingo Park News

Winter 2001

City of Miami Beach

Neighborhood Services Department

Miami Beach Police Department Introduces NRO Program

The Neighborhood Resource Officer (NRO) Program was instituted in March 2001. The program divides the City into three districts, south, middle and north, and provides one officer as a NRO to each district. The primary responsibility of the NRO is to address the special problems and needs within their district. In order to fulfill that responsibility and build a bridge of trust with the residents, the NRO attends neighborhood meetings, civic meetings and youth-oriented activities, and interacts with residents on a daily basis. For more information about the Neighborhood Resource Officer Program, please contact Officer Alex Bello at 305-673-7776 ext. 5037.

"We are committed to providing excellent public service and safety to all who live, work and play in our vibrant, tropical, historic community."



City of Miami Beach
Neighborhood Services
1700 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, FL 33139
305-673-7580 (phone)
305-604-2498 (fax)

Neighborhood Meeting Addresses Quality of Life Issues

Approximately 20 residents attended the Flamingo Park Neighborhood meeting on November 15, 2001. Those in attendance identified a number of concerns affecting the community's quality of life. This newsletter highlights those areas and provides important information regarding the City's programs and the community's responsibilities. The following seven items were identified as neighborhood priorities:

1. Work with the Police Department's HOT

(Homeless Outreach Team) and the City's new Homeless Coordinator to identify areas of concentration and individuals in need of homeless outreach through the Homeless Trust's "Continuum of Care" model.

2. Educate the community of new Police programs to eliminate prostitution and other criminal activity.

3. Provide the community with a telephone list for the City's 24-hour services.

4. Educate the community on parking or-

dinances.

5. Provide better education on sanitation pick-up schedules, recycling programs and proper placement of waste. Increase number of on-street trash receptacles.

6. Provide information about cat population control organizations and animal curbing including feral cat neutering and spaying organizations. Provide information on the pooper-scooper ordinance and the locations of the bag dispenser boxes.

Parking Do's and Don'ts – Illegal

Parking and the Safety Zones (Yellow Curb)

Throughout the City there are curbs painted yellow indicating that parking is prohibited. These areas are referred to as "safety zones." The safety zones provide drivers with an ample line of vision when making turns or exiting parking areas. It is the area or space officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and that is marked by adequate signs or authorized yellow pavement markings.

Miami-Dade Ordinance Chapter 30 in part regulates the "safety zones" and illegal parking. Chapter 30 states that no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle on the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street; on the sidewalk; within an intersection; on a crosswalk, or between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within 30 feet of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless the department of transportation indicates a different length by signs or markings.

In addition, no person shall stop or park a vehicle, whether occupied or not, except momen-

tarily to pick up or discharge a passenger(s) within 15 feet of a fire hydrant; within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection or within 30 feet of a flashing signal, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway.

For more information in regard to Parking Ordinances and regulations, please contact the Miami Beach Parking Department at 305-673-7505.

Police Crack Down on Prostitution with New Mapping Program

The City of Miami Beach Police Department has recently instituted a mapping program to address and eradicate prostitution in the Entertainment Districts of South Beach. The mapping program utilizes a "trespassing warning," in addition to an arrest for prostitution or solicitation as a first offense. By issuing the trespassing warning on the first occasion, the police officers are able to arrest the offender if they return to the same area. This program has resulted in over 84 trespassing arrests in 2001.

Important Phone Numbers

CiviCall
(For Information & Comments)
305-604-CITY (2489)

Office of the Mayor and Commission
305-673-7030

Office of the City Manager
305-673-7010

Police (non-emergency)
305-673-7900

Fire (non-emergency)
305-673-7120

Neighborhood Services
305-673-7077

Community Resource & Outreach
305-673-7580

Parks & Recreation
305-673-7730

Parking
305-673-PARK

City Job Hotline
305-673-7777

City Clerk
305-673-7411

Bulky Waste Pick-Up Appointment
305-633-2700

24-Hour Services

Water & Sewer Streets Sidewalks Streetlights Stormwater
305-673-7625

Traffic Signals
305-592-3580

FPL (power outages & street lights on wooden poles)
305-442-8770

City Institutes a Program to Assist Homeless

The City of Miami Beach has assigned a high priority to identifying and ending the cycle of homelessness. As part of the City's ongoing efforts, the Neighborhood Services Department recently hired Olga Vasquez as the City's Homeless Coordinator. The City works through the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust outreach team to utilize their Continuum of Care system.

The Continuum of Care system is a model based on the understanding that homelessness is not caused merely by a lack of shelter, but involves a variety of underlying, unmet needs – physical, economic and social. The system is a three-phase comprehensive strategy for the delivery and coordination of homeless housing and services. These phases are as follows:

Temporary Care (*emergency housing*) for seven to up to 60 days. There are two Homeless Assistance Centers with a total of 650 beds available throughout Miami-Dade County. These "centers" provide:

- On-site daycare facilities, full-service health clinics, and vocational classrooms staffed by the public school system;

- On-site services of representatives from the Social Security Administration, the Florida Department of Children and Families, Legal Services, the welfare-to-work program, employment placement programs and the Veteran's Administration.

Primary Care (*transitional housing*) with intensive case management services for six to nine months.

Advanced Care (*permanent housing*)

- Utilizing low-income affordable housing for homeless persons as the third and final stage of the continuum.
- A plan for achieving a goal of 2,500 new permanent housing in the form of project-based, scattered site, market rate, and/or voucher-funded units.
- Housing that re-integrate homeless persons into the community and projects that provide long-term, follow-along services, such as relapse prevention, continuing education, and family support.

For more information about the Continuum of Care program, contact Olga Vasquez, Homeless Coordinator, at 305-673-7000, ext. 3404.

Sanitation -- Waste Services Let's Talk Trash!



The City of Miami Beach Sanitation Department will start installing 160 new trash receptacles in the Flamingo/Ocean Drive neighborhood by mid-December 2001. Some of the new cans will replace the smaller "smart cans," and the remaining ones will be distributed in the commercial districts and in some of the residential areas that are near commercial districts.

In addition, the Sanitation Department has recently implemented a new system for street sweeping, that utilizes a grid method, sectioning off areas of the city that are swept on a daily and weekly schedule. All residential streets in South Beach are swept once a week. The business districts are swept daily. In its continuous efforts to automate, the Sanitation Department will be testing the "Green Machine" sweepers in the residential areas. This will give the Sanitation Department the ability to increase the frequency of street cleaning in these areas. The testing of this machine is scheduled for late December, with the anticipation to have them in service by mid 2002.

Recycling Questions? Recycling pick-up for residents receiving city sanitation service is on Wednesdays. Residents who have private garbage pick-up service should call their hauler directly for their recycling schedule: BFI 305-638-3800, Waste Management 305-471-4444, Davis Sanitation 305-653-2684, and Imperial Sanitation 305-888-3551.

Cats and Dogs



Miami Beach has a large population of cats and dogs. In an effort to keep the City's public right-of-ways clean, the City passed Ordinance 10-13, also referred to as the Pooper Scooper Ordinance. The ordinance states that any person owning, possessing, having the care, charge, control or custody of any animal shall immediately remove and therefore dispose of any fecal matter deposited by the animal on public or private property (other than the property of the owner).

To better accommodate pet owners in these efforts, the Miami Beach Parks Department has installed box dispensers with scooper plastic bags throughout the City. There are currently boxes located in Flamingo Park, Lummus Park, Pine Tree Park, and on Lincoln Road conveniently located near entrances, walkways, and trash receptacles. The dispensers are easily identifiable with signage. Please remember that the bags are a convenience to the City's dog owning residents and should be used as needed, leaving bags to be used by others.

Addressing the cat population problem requires a community effort. Two volunteer organizations provide spaying and neutering services for a nominal charge: Sobe Spay & Neuter, 305-864-8649, and The Cat Network, 305-255-3482. They also find suitable homes for adoptable stray and feral cats.

To report animal cruelty or the pick-up of a dead animal, please contact the Animal Service Unit of the Miami-Dade Police Department at 305-884-1101.